

NEWS FROM MRMIB

The **M**anaged **R**isk **M**edical **I**nsurance **B**oard

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Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board Chosen For National Oral Health Initiative

SACRAMENTO, CA -- The Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board has been selected by the DentaQuest Foundation to join its Oral Health 2014 Initiative. MRMIB will receive nearly \$100,000 to support its work to address access for oral health services for children subscribed to its Healthy Families Program.

The Oral Health 2014 Initiative is a nationwide effort to reverse oral health disparities in the United States. The Board joins partners in 20 states collaborating to improve dental quality.

"We are grateful to DentaQuest for supporting MRMIB's efforts to improve oral health for California's children," said MRMIB member Richard Figueroa. "MRMIB recognizes the crucial link between oral and overall health. The resources provided by DentaQuest will better enable MRMIB to ensure that Healthy Families children obtain high quality dental care and establish good oral health early in life."

Nearly 70 organizations expressed interest in the Oral Health 2014 initiative and its objectives. Thirty-six organizations were invited to submit full proposals. The multi-year Oral Health 2014 Initiative aims to eliminate such disparities by supporting state organizations who are building community partnerships.

Two years ago, MRMIB embarked on an effort to increase Healthy Families subscribers' use of dental care. In July 2010, the Board started the *Healthy Families Healthy Smiles* initiative to improve the oral health of children in the Healthy Families Program. MRMIB is working with its health and dental plans to encourage better oral health and help Healthy Families subscribers maximize their benefits.

The DentaQuest Foundation is supported by DentaQuest, a leading oral health company, administering prevention-focused dental benefits to nearly 15 million individuals across the United States.

The Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board is an independent state board within the California Health and Human Services Agency charged with assessing the needs of people without adequate health coverage and promoting ways to assure adequate health care services. The Board administers the Healthy Families Program, Access for Infants and Mothers, the Major Risk Medical Insurance Program, the County Children's Health Initiative Program and the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Program.

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